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Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" With reference to the last sentence of the answer, may I know if the experiment is proposed to be carried out in any other station ?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" Not now."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask if the Government have not considered that question at all ?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" If the trial proves successful, then that question will be considered."

Co-operative Societies

Registration of land mortgage banks in the Presidency.

* 131 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state with reference to his answer to question No. 1993 answered on 27th March 1929—

(a) whether all the twenty land mortgage banks mentioned therein were registered after due consideration and assurance by the officers of the department that there were prospects of successful working of these banks ;

(b) why all of them except a few are not successful;

(c) the dates on which, and the persons by whom the banks at Chengam, Bhavani and Tinnevelly were registered and why they have not even started work ; and

(d) who is responsible for registering such nominal organizations ?

A.—(a) All the banks were registered after due consideration by the department that there were prospects of successful working. It is not for the officers of the department to give assurances, nor have these banks been promoted by them. The main points on which the department had to be satisfied were that there were persons available and willing to run the bank ; that the locality was such that there were reasonably valuable lands in the immediate vicinity, which could be accepted as security to such an extent that there would be ample scope for business for the bank, with crops not so precarious as to jeopardise its safety ; that there were reasonable prospects of selling debentures. On this last point, which seems to depend largely on the personal reputation of the principal promoters, it is impossible to be quite sure that debentures will actually be sold. One would expect that they would sell more readily in towns than in villages but in point of fact the most successful bank is at Gudlavaleeru, a small village. In every case there are very many assurances from the persons anxious to have a bank registered that there will be an ample sale of debentures ; that, in fact, there were numerous actual promises to take up a considerable quantity.

(b) The principal reason is that the promises and assurances by the promoters have not been so far realized and that the banks have in fact failed to sell any debentures.

(c) & (d) The banks at Chengam, Bhavani and Tinnevelly were registered on 15th July 1927, 29th May 1928 and 2nd August 1926 respectively by the Deputy Registrars concerned with

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the Registrar's permission. The first two banks have since formally started work on 27th May 1929 and 4th April 1929 respectively. The reasons for the delay are said to be that in Chengam the prime mover had failed to secure debentures and even now there is no certainty of his hopes materializing. The future of the bank at Bhavani is not bright owing to factions. As regards the third bank, no steps are being taken to start it as there are no prospects of its successful working. The answer to clause (a) above explains how these banks happened to be registered.

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—" Will the hon. the Minister be pleased to give the names of the Deputy Registrars who registered the banks at Chengam, Bhavani and Tinnevelly ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—" Has the hon. Minister satisfied himself that these banks were not started merely on communal grounds instead of blaming the people of the locality for not carrying on the work ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" I am not aware of that."

Reduction in the rate of interest on loans to land mortgage banks, etc.

* 132 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether the Government have decided to reduce the rate of interest on their loans to land mortgage banks and building societies ?

A.—The matter is still under consideration.

Fisheries

Transfer of the control of fish-curing yards to the Government of India.

* 133 Q.—Dr. B. S. Mallayya : Will the hon the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether the Government have taken any and if so what steps to hand over the management of the fish-curing yards to the Government of India ?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

Investigation of plankton, etc., on an all-India basis.

* 134 Q.—Dr. B. S. Mallayya : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether the Government have addressed the Central Government in the matter of conducting the investigation of plankton, the migration and the oil contents, mackerels, etc., on an all-India basis ?

A.—No.

Abolition of the post of Socio-Economic Sub-Assistant in the Fisheries department.

* 135 Q.—Mr. Mahmud Schamnad : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the post of the Socio-Economic Sub-Assistant in the Fisheries department has been abolished ; and